AL - HIDAYAAH No: 11

By: **Sheikhul Hadith Hadhrat Moulana Fazlur Rahman Saheb 1421/2000**

MAHR (DOWRY)

The Mahr of the wives of Rasulullaah (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam) and the Mahr of Hadhrat Faatima (R.A).

By: Sheikhul Hadith Hadhrat Moulana Fazlur Rahman Saheb

Allaah Ta'ala says**: AIndeed We know what We have enjoined upon them for their wives.@** (Surah Ahzaab Aayat 50)

This Aayat denoted that Allaah Ta'aala in His infinite knowledge knows the rights of the wife that are due upon the husband. The Hanafi Scholars state that the right to *Mahr* (dowry) is also included in the rights mentioned. In the above verse Allaah has stipulated an amount, which should not be less than ten *dirhams* according to a Hadith reported by Hadhrat Jaabir (R.A).[1]

MINIMUM MAHR

Therefore, according to the Hanafi Scholars *Mahr* cannot be less than ten *dirhams* (approximately 31 grams of silver). In fact, an amount less than ten *dirhams* will not even be regarded as *Mahr*. Although there is no maximum limit for *Mahr*, the Shari'ah dislikes that an exorbitant figure be asked as *Mahr*. Hadhrat Umar (R.A) said: ADo ask a high dowry for your women. If (doing so) was a token of honour in this world or a source of piety, by Allaah, then your Rasul (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam) should have been more worthy of it (i.e. of stipulating a high *Mahr* for his daughters).@ {Tirmidhi Pg. 21}

MAHR-E-AZWAAJUN NABI (SALALLAAHU-ALAYHI-WA-SALLAM) I.E. THE MAHR THAT NABI (SALALLAAHU-ALAYHI-WA-SALLAM) GAVE TO HIS WIVES

According to an authentic narration of Sahih Muslim, Rasulullaah (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam) gave his wives five hundred *dirhams* (approximately 1530.9g of silver) as Mahr.[2] Therefore, if one can afford to do so, it is Mustahab (preferable) to stipulate this amount as *Mahr*[3].

MAHR-E-FAATIMI(R.A)

It is also Mustahab to stipulate as *Mahr* the amount that was given to the daughters of Rasulullaah (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam). From amongst the daughters of Rasulullaah (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam), the Ahadeeth mention the *Mahr* that was given to Hadhrat Faatima (R.A). However, these narrations are not recorded in the Sihaa Sitta (the six most authentic compilations of Hadith). Furthermore, there is a difference of opinion concerning the exact amount that was paid as Mahr for the hand of Hadhrat Faatima (A.R).

- According to Ibnu Hummaam (A.R), the *Mahr-e-Faatimi* is four hundred *dirhams* (1224g of silver). {Mirqaat V.6 Pg.246}

---

[1] Fathul Mulhim Vol.3 Pg.479. Ibn Abi Haatim (A.R) has recorded this narration with the *sanad* (chain of narrators) and Haafidh Ibn Hajar (A.R) has stated that its status is no less than *Hasan.*

[2] Sahih Muslim Vol. 1 Pg. 458.

[3] Imaam Nawawi (A.R) mentions this in his commentary of Sahih Muslim Vol.1 Pg.458.

- Mulla Ali Qaari (A.R) states that the *Mahr-e-Faatimi* is four hundred *mithqaal* of silver (1750g). {Ibid}

- Mufti Muhammad Shafi (A.R)=s verdict is that the *Mahr-e-Faatimi* is five hundred *dirhams* (1530g). {Imdaadul Mufti=een Vol.3 Pg.1-2}

- Mufti Mahmood Hasan Gangohi (R.A) has stated that *Mahr-e- Faatimi* is five hundred *dirhams* (approximately 132 *tolas* of silver, which equal 1540g) (Fataawa Mahmoodiyya V.11 Pg.201). He also issued the verdict that the amount was four hundred *mithqaal* (+132 *tolas*=1750g) (Nizam Kanpur Magazine B July 1965)

- Moulana Siddique Ahmed Baanwi (A.R) has stated that the *Mahr-e-Faatimi* is four hundred *mithqaal* (150 *tolas*, which equal 1750g of silver). (Fadhaail Nikah Pg.31). Moulana Burhaanuddin Sambali (A.R) has also preferred this view.

- Mufti Abdur Raheem Laajpuri (Daamat Barakaatuh) writes: AThe preferred and more cautious view is that the *Mahr-e-Faatimi* be calculated as 150 *tolas* of silver.@ (This is an amount of 400 *mithqaal* i.e. 1750g of silver) (Fataawa Raheemiyya Vol.6 Pg.445)

From the views mentioned above, one can understand the extent to which senior scholars of Islaam differ in this regard. Furthermore, according to Mufti Muhammed Yahya Qasmi (Daamat Barakaatuh), who is the chief Mufti of Darul Uloom Hyderabad, no narration has been found to substantiate that the Mahr-e-Faatimi is actually five hundred *dirhams*. (Ba=th wan Nazr Pg.107)

CONCLUSION

It has become famous in South Africa that Mahr-e-Faatimi is five hundred *dirhams* (1530g of silver). Since we have not found any clear and authentic narration to substantiate this, it is incorrect to regard this amount as **Mahr-e-Faatimi** with certainty. However, this figure of 500 *dirhams* (1530.9g) can certainly be called **Mahr-e-Azwaajun Nabi (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam)**, as substantiated by the authentic narration of Sahih Muslim (quoted above). Thus, one should term the dowry at the time of Nikah as Mahr-e-Azwaajun Nabi (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam). If one wants to stipulate Mahr-e-Faatimi, then it is best and most preferred to calculate it as four hundred *mithqaal* (1750g of silver), as stated by Mufti Abdur Raheem Laajpuri (Daamat Barakaatuh).

Nevertheless (as Allaamah Nawawi (A.R) has stated), if one can afford it, one should stipulate that amount as *Mahr* which Rasulullaah (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam) gave to most of his blessed wives i.e. 500 *dirhams* - 1530.9g of silver). This is best because there is no difference of opinion concerning the exact amount. Furthermore, this *Mahr*, called **Mahr-e-Azwaajun Nabi (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam)** is substantiated by an authentic narration of Sahih Muslim.

METHOD OF CALCULATION

The method of calculating Mahr-e-Azwaajun Nabi (salallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam) is to multiply the current silver price per gram to 1530 grams.

E.g. If the current silver price is R1,20 /gram, the *Mahr* amount will be 1530 x 1.2 = R 1836

❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁❁

❊❊

Islaamic Research Organisation.
Web Site : www.al-islam.8k.com
E-mail : muftie@mweb.co.za
Mufti Afzal Hoosen Elias.
P . O . Box 131264
Northmead
Benoni
1511

❊❊